

Listing of the Claims:

- 1 (original): A method of accessing a media access control (MAC) address or a 1394 globally unique identifier (GUID) serial number for a network interface controller (NIC) comprising:
- 5 storing the MAC address or the 1394 GUID serial number into a basic input/output system (BIOS); and
- loading the MAC address or the 1394 GUID serial number from the BIOS into an operational register of the NIC.
- 10 2 (original): The method of accessing a MAC address or a 1394 GUID serial number in claim 1 further comprising checking if the NIC is enabled.
- 3 (original): The method of accessing a MAC address or a 1394 GUID serial number in claim 1 further comprising checking if the MAC address is valid.
- 15 4 (original): The method of accessing a MAC address or a 1394 GUID serial number in claim 1 wherein storing the MAC address or the 1394 GUID serial number into a BIOS comprises storing the MAC address or the 1394 GUID serial number into a desktop management interface (DMI) region or an extended system configuration data (ESCD) region of the BIOS.
- 20 5 (original): A method of accessing a MAC address or a 1394 GUID serial number for a NIC device comprising:
- 25 storing the MAC address or the 1394 GUID serial number into a CMOS register; and
- loading the MAC address or the 1394 GUID serial number from the CMOS register into an operational register of the NIC device.

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6 (original): The method of accessing a MAC address or a 1394 GUID serial number in
claim 5 further comprising checking if the NIC device is enabled.

5 7 (original): The method of accessing a MAC address or a 1394 GUID serial number in
claim 5 further comprising checking if the MAC address is valid.